



United States
of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 117th CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

Vol. 167

WASHINGTON, MONDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 2021

No. 205

House of Representatives

The House was not in session today. Its next meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 30, 2021, at 2 p.m.

Senate

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 2021

The Senate met at 3 p.m. and was called to order by the President pro tempore (Mr. LEAHY).

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

O God, who remains the same though all else fades, we praise You for Your graciousness and compassion, rejoicing that You are slow to anger and rich in love.

Lord, thank You for Your presence in the lives of our lawmakers, providing them with clear vision from Your light that leads to truth.

Remind our Senators that everything is possible for those who believe. Incline their hearts to Your wisdom and love, as You keep their feet on the path of integrity.

We pray in Your great Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The President pro tempore led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Hawaii.

Ms. HIRONO. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. HIRONO). Without objection, it is so ordered.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Democratic leader is recognized.

REMEMBERING ABE SCHUMER

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I hope all Senators had a productive and restful Thanksgiving holiday.

This year, I am sad to say, was a painful Thanksgiving season for the Schumer family. Last Wednesday, we all said goodbye to my father Abe Schumer, who passed away after 98 amazing years.

I want to thank all of my colleagues in this Chamber who have reached out with prayers, condolences, and words of kindness in recent days. Their words give us strength. Their prayers give us healing. Their kindness gives us immense comfort. I say the same to so many New Yorkers who reached out as well.

Here on the floor of the U.S. Senate, I want to take a moment to offer a loving son's tribute to the man we lost last week.

My father was the kind of parent every kid deserves, every spouse hopes for, and the sort of American that makes our country great, and as I shared last week:

In so many ways, he personified the greatest generation. He took whatever was thrown at him, no matter how difficult; he did his job and never complained. He was an amaz-

ing husband, parent, grandparent, and great-grandparent.

Dad, we love you. We already miss you beyond comprehension. Thank you for the incredible life you led on this Earth.

CORONAVIRUS

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, now, on another subject, Omicron. Over the course of 2021, our country has made monumental and hard-fought progress in our fight against the COVID-19 pandemic.

After the passing of the American Rescue Plan, after getting vaccines into as many arms as possible, and because of the unceasing work of the Biden administration and healthcare workers across the country, we begin the winter of 2021 in a much better place than the winter of 2020.

But as we learn more about the Omicron variant that is spreading abroad, my message to the American people is simple: If you don't want to get sick, get vaccinated. If you are eligible, get your booster shot.

While there is so much we have yet to understand about the Omicron variant, we do know that you are far less likely to be hospitalized or die from the coronavirus if you are fully vaccinated. And for those who are already vaccinated, research shows that boosters are likewise highly effective. Take the words of Dr. Francis Collins, the head of the National Institutes of Health:

Boosters do, in fact, allow your immune system to have a wide range of capabilities against spike proteins it hasn't seen before.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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